

Serial No. 10/718,165

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A thermal aqueous extraction and fractionation process for producing a specific resulting composition of water-soluble phytomedicinal compounds particularly and substantially devoid of molecular entities larger than about 10 kd comprising:
combining green tea plant material with water, in a ratio of plant material to water within a range of about 1:5 to about 1:50, at a temperature between about 75°C and about 102°C for a period of time to solubilize a substantial portion of thermal aqueous extractable phytocompounds present in the plant material, to produce a first extract; and
specifically removing substantially all entities having a molecular weight greater than about 10kd from the extract to produce a [[substantially complete]] composition of water-soluble phytomedicinal compounds [[less than about 10kd in size]] resulting from the specific removal of substantially all entities having a molecular weight greater than about 10kd.
2. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the plant material is selected from the group consisting of leaves, bark, flowers, roots, stems, and fruit.
3. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the composition is substantially devoid of water-insoluble compounds.
4. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the ratio of plant material to water is within a range of about 1:10 to about 1:40, and the temperature is between about 75°C and about 100°C, and the period of time is between about 0.5 hours and about 48 hours, which comprises the additional step of drying the composition.
5. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of plant material to water is within a range of about 1:10 to about 1:40, and the temperature is between about 75°C and about 100°C, and the period of time is between about 0.5 hours and about 24 hours.

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6. (Original) The process according to claim 5 wherein the ratio of plant material to water is within a range of about 1:10 to about 1:40, and the temperature is between about 75°C and about 100°C, and the period of time is between about 0.5 hours and about 12 hours.
7. (Original) The process according to claim 6 wherein the ratio of plant material to water is within a range of about 1:10 to about 1:40, and the temperature is between about 90°C and about 100°C, and the period of time is between about 1 hour and about 6 hours.
8. (Original) The process according to claim 7 wherein the ratio of plant material to water is within a range of about 1:20 to about 1:40, and the temperature is between about 95°C and about 100°C, and the period of time is between about 1 hour and about 6 hours.
9. (Original) The process according to claim 8 wherein the ratio of plant material to water is within a range of about 1:25 to about 1:35, and the temperature is between about 95°C and about 100°C, and the period of time is between about 1 hour and about 6 hours.
10. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the plant material is homogenized.
11. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the plant material is known to possess medicinal properties.
12. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the step of removing substantially all entities having a molecular weight greater than about 10kd from the extract is accomplished by means selected from the group consisting of ultra-filtration, chromatography, dialysis, and centrifugation.
13. (Cancel)
14. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11 wherein the composition is substantially devoid of pigment.

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15. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a composition of water-soluble phytomedicinal compounds comprising:

Combining green tea plant material with water, in a ratio of plant material to water within a range of about 1:5 to about 1:50, at a temperature between about 75°C and about 102°C for a period of time to solubilize a substantial portion of thermal aqueous extractable phytocompounds present in the plant material, to produce a first extract; and

removing substantially all entities having a molecular weight greater than about 13kd from the extract to produce a [[substantially complete]] composition of water-soluble phytomedicinal compounds [[less than about 13kd in size]].

16-21. (Cancel)

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